

San Lorenzo Ruiz

September 28

Who was San Lorenzo Ruiz?

San Lorenzo Ruiz was a Filipino saint and martyr who lived during the 17th century. He is recognized as the first Filipino saint and a symbol of faith and courage.

San Lorenzo Ruiz was born around the year 1600 and raised in Binondo, Manila, in the Philippines. He was an altar server as a boy as well as a skilled calligrapher. He was the son of a Chinese father and a Filipino mother and was known for his dedication to his Catholic faith.

He married a woman named Rosario with whom he had three children: two sons and one daughter. Unfortunately, in 1963, Lorenzo was wrongfully accused of murder, with false allegations of having killed someone. Fearing for his life, he ran away and found refuge on board a ship which was transporting three Dominican priests to Japan.

Upon their arrival, the mission was met with hostility and the missionaries were forced to practice their faith in secret. Despite the risks, San Lorenzo Ruiz remained persistent in his commitment to Christ.

Eventually, the missionaries were discovered and arrested. San Lorenzo Ruiz, along with his companions, endured harsh torture as they refused to renounce their faith. Despite the suffering, they remained persistent, believing in the power of Christ now, more than ever. This passion and their firm beliefs infuriated the authorities even more, which led to Lorenzo's two-year imprisonment.

His strong faith and refusal to renounce his Catholicism ultimately resulted in his death, as he was beaten and executed. Later, his death became a symbol of strength and resilience for the Filipino people, leading to his beatification in 1981 by St. Pope John Paul II.

San Lorenzo Ruiz's life and sacrifice inspire us to hold firm to our faith even in the face of adversity. He is considered a patron saint of the Philippines, Filipinos abroad and persecuted Christians. His example teaches us the importance of standing up for our beliefs and remaining faithful, even in challenging times.

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Quotes

"I am a Catholic and wholeheartedly do accept death for God. Had I a thousand lives, all these to Him I shall offer. Do with me as you please." "In the midst of suffering, our faith is strengthened, and our love for God deepens." "The path of righteousness may be difficult, but it is the path that leads us closer to God."

Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit;

Dear San Lorenzo Ruiz,
You are a shining example of faith,
courage,
and unwavering devotion to God.
We turn to you,
seeking your intercession and guidance in our own lives.

You who faced persecution and martyrdom for your faith, help us to be steadfast in our Catholic beliefs.

Strengthen our resolve to stand up for what is right, even in the face of adversity.

Grant us the courage to live out our faith authentically and to share the love of Jesus with others.

San Lorenzo Ruiz,
you who faced unimaginable suffering,
be a source of comfort and strength to those who are enduring hardships and trials.
Intercede for us and bring our intentions before the throne of God.

Help us to embody the virtues of faith, hope and charity.

Teach us to live lives of service, always putting others before ourselves.

May our actions be a reflection of God's love in the world.

San Lorenzo Ruiz, we entrust our lives and intentions to your care. Pray for us and guide us on our journey of faith, that we may one day join you in the eternal joy of heaven.

Amen.

Patron Saint

Filipino People

Overseas Workers

Migrants

Poor and Marginalized

Public Servers



Social Media Caption:

September 28 marks the Feast Day of San Lorenzo Ruiz, a hero and a model of faith. His feast day is an opportunity to remember his courage, resilience, and unwavering commitment to God. It serves as a reminder of the importance of standing up for one's beliefs, even in the face of persecution.

Instagram Post:

Link to customize for your school Instagram - FD for San Lorenzo Ruiz.

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Image Alt Text

Graphic featuring a painting of San Lorenzo Ruiz wearing a white robe and holding a rosary. School location: Markham, ON. His quote: 'Do not be afraid to stand up for what you believe in, even when faced with adversity.' Lists patronages: Poor, Marginalized, Public Servers, Migrants, Filipino People, and Overseas Workers.

